

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
AID-05 CEA-01 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 CIEP-01 STR-04
TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 /085 W
----- 032047 /12

R 161801Z DEC 76
FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2609
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 2880
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY MADRID

C O N F I D E N T I A L EC BRUSSELS 12410

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, EC, PO
SUBJECT: SOARES' SWING THROUGH EC CAPITALS

REF: (A) LISBON 8489; (B) PARIS 37088

1. THE PORTUGUESE AMBASSADOR TO THE EC, ANTONIO DE SIQUEIRA FREIRE, TELLS ME THAT PRIME MINISTER SOARES WILL LEAD OFF HIS TOUR OF EC CAPITALS IN MID-FEBRUARY WITH A VISIT TO THE U.K. PRESIDENCY IN LONDON. DURING THE BALANCE OF FEBRUARY SOARES WILL VISIT DUBLIN, COPENHAGEN, AND ROME. THE PORTUGUESE PRIME MINISTER EXPECTS TO RESUME HIS EC TRAVELS ON MARCH 8 WITH VISITS TO BONN, PARIS, AND THE BENELUX CAPITALS, ENDING WITH A SEPARATE VISIT TO THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION.

2. THE AMBASSADOR COMMENTED THAT THE ONLY COMMUNITY CAPITAL WHERE THE PROTUGUESE ANTICIPATE RESISTANCE TO THEIR QUEST FOR EARLY MEMBER SHIP IN THE EC
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IS PARIS. HOWEVER, THE PORTUGUESE TEND TO REGARD FRENCH RECALCITRANCE AS A MATTER OF "NEGOTIATING TACTICS". THEY DOUBT THAT IN A SHOWDOWN FRANCE WOULD TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR BLOCKING PORTUGAL'S MOVE TOWARD EUROPE. HINTON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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